

Board of Police Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Chairman Paul D. Abercrombie Police Commission and Training Room 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
November 22, 2016  
7:00 p.m.

Chairman Joseph D'Errico called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Joseph F. D'Errico, Commissioners Larry Lazaroff and Marc Calafiore, Deputy Chief Jonathan Mulhern and Chief Thomas McLoughlin

Absent: Commissioners Walt Spader and David Monz

Others Present: Town Attorney Jennifer Coppola

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes from the October 25, 2016 meeting. Commissioner Lazaroff made the motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Calafiore seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor.

Chairman D'Errico asked for a motion to approve the monthly reports for October 2016. The motion to approve the monthly reports for October 2016 was made by Commissioner Calafiore; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Lazaroff. There was no further discussion. All were in favor.

**Correspondence:**

A letter was received from the State's Attorney's Office relative to the Department's investigation, and subsequent successful prosecution, of a recent criminal matter. The letter recognizes Detectives Michael Harton and John Wilcox, Sergeant Matthew Falcon and Officer Maurice Martin for their "stellar" police work and assistance with the case.

A resident of Pool Road sent a poem/memo to the Department that read of the respect owed to all Police Officers and the wishes of safety and great thanks for all that Police Officers do.

A thank you letter was sent on behalf of Sergeant Matthew Falcon, identifying the professionalism that he displayed at the Ridge Road polling center during the recent Presidential election.

Chief McLoughlin received a thank you letter from Chief Drumm of the Madison Police Department, thanking the Chief and the department for their assistance with a manhunt in Madison last month.

### **Chairman's Report**

Chairman spoke of a recent Planning and Zoning (P&Z) meeting that he had attended, adding that he was told that neither the Chief of Police nor Fire Chief comment on the plans that are given to them for review by the P&Z. Chairman D'Errico said he did not comment on this information until he had a chance to discuss this with both Chiefs for clarification. Mr. D'Errico said on the following day he spoke with both Chiefs and learned that both the Chief of Police and the Fire Chief do in fact comment on the site plans that they are submitted by the zoning office.

Town Attorney Jennifer Coppola spoke regarding this issue and said that Planning and Zoning department desires input from Chiefs, not from the Police Commissioners or Fire Commissioners. After some discussion, Chief McLoughlin reminded the Commissioners of the March 2016 BOPC meeting, and the subsequent BOPC meeting in June 2016, where Commission members expressed a desire to be part of the P&Z review process. Attorney Coppola suggested that the process of reviewing the monthly Planning and Zoning submissions be returned to the way it has been done for the last 50 years. Ms. Coppola stated that this had been the long standing practice. Further, she explained that if there is an issue that the Board of Police Commissioners needs to be made aware of, the Chief will forward it to them at the next scheduled commission meeting. The Commission members present were in favor of returning to the previous Police Department practice of reviewing P&Z submissions.

Chairman D'Errico asked members of the board to make a motion to send a letter to the Superintendent of schools and the Chairman of the Board of Education (BOE) to advise them that the Police Department has tried to obtain permission to enter the schools with the Police K9s for the purpose of drug detection searches, but the school administration will not allow the department to do so. Chairman D'Errico said he was concerned that if something drug related were to happen in the future at one of the schools, the Police Department would be blamed for not conducting random drug searches.

In this letter, the Chairman would ask that the BOE approve such searches of the Middle School and High School buildings. Being that no motion was received from the Board; the Chairman asked that Chief McLoughlin draft a letter on behalf the Chair stating that this is what the Board desires.

### **Chiefs Report**

Chief wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and reminded everyone that with the Holiday shopping season starting this weekend, to be aware of their surroundings in stores and parking lots, use well-lit areas, do not leave valuables in plain sight and remember to lock your vehicles at all times.

### **Budget**

Chief reported that the budget continues to be where it should be at this time. As mentioned last month, the overtime is up a little due to training, the milling and paving of roads and leaf pickup.

As for the budget for FY2017-2018, it will be submitted to the Finance Office on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Chief does not expect to have too many capital improvement requests for the building as most everything needed can wait 2 years, and then be made part of building renovations.

### **Support Services/Traffic**

The Chief introduced Town Attorney Jennifer Coppola who spoke regarding the proposed Residential Restricted Parking Zone (RRPZ) which she briefed the Board of Police Commission at last month's meeting.

Attorney Coppola explained that this proposed RRPZ section will be added to the current parking ordinance under § 151-14. Attorney Coppola took the Board through the draft ordinance and read out loud each provision.

Attorney Coppola stated that if the Board adopted this ordinance change, then it would be presented to the Board of Selectmen, and if they accept the proposed ordinance, it would then go to a town meeting for approval.

After a brief discussion with the Commission, and a few residents who were present, the Chairman decided that the proposed ordinance change would be tabled until next month's meeting so that the absent Commissioners would have time to review it.

- **Public Comment**

Ed Homa of 7 Collett Street questioned the time line, and asked how long it will take before the ordinance is in place.

- Kelly Christopher owner of Dairy Queen, 2011 Whitney Avenue, expressed his concerns about the overflow of vehicles should this ordinance pass, fearing that the overflow of vehicles will now be parking in his lot.

In an unrelated traffic matter, the Chief received a request from the Fire Chief who has asked the Board to consider reestablishing the traffic light control switch located at fire headquarters. This switch controls the traffic signal at Broadway and Washington Avenue and it was removed during the renovations of Fire Headquarters. The Local Traffic Authority would have to approve this request before it could be forwarded to the State DOT for a final decision. At the same time, the Fire Chief also asked that the BOPC consider a "roadway emergency traffic box" fronting Fire Headquarters. This painted box would prohibit stopped vehicles from blocking the driveway of headquarters. The Chairman tabled this request until next month's meeting so the absent commissioners would have time to review it.

### **Professional Standards and Training**

The Chief reported that all the body cams have been received, and hopefully, all officers will be trained and the cameras can be deployed by Christmas. If this is the case, we should be able to have a camera demonstration at our December meeting.

### **Uniformed Services/Patrol**

Nighttime larcenies are back up again. We had ten stolen vehicles in the last month, all with the exception of one, were unlocked and with keys left in them. The Chief, again, reminded those watching the meeting at home to lock their vehicles and remove the keys.

### **Investigative Services**

The Chief reported that we did have a Bank Robbery on the November 14 and that an arrest was made within twelve hours. The Chief credited excellent police work on behalf of the first responders and detectives, as well as, thanking East Haven PD and Branford PD for their assistance in identifying and locating the suspect.

**Walter T Berniere Scholarship**

The Chief presented one request for scholarship consideration from Sergeant Joe Woznyk. Sergeant Woznyk just completed his Bachelor's degree and has submitted a request for consideration for four undergraduate classes. Commissioner Lazaroff made the motion to grant a Walter T. Berniere Scholarship award to Sergeant Woznyk for four college classes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Calafiore and all were in favor.

With nothing further, Chairman D'Errico asked for a motion to adjourn for the purpose of moving to Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Calafiore; seconded by Commissioner Lazaroff. All were in favor. The time was 8:19 p.m.

The Commission returned to Regular Session for the purpose of voting at 8:34 p.m. Chairman D'Errico asked for a motion to award Officer Valdemar Queiroga not more than sixty (60) sick days to cover a long term absence caused by an off duty injury. Commissioner Calafiore made a motion to award Officer Valdemar Queiroga not more than sixty (60) sick days. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lazaroff.

All were in favor. There was no further discussion.

Chairman D'Errico asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Lazaroff, seconded by Commissioner Calafiore. All were in favor. The time was 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Larry Lazaroff, Secretary

Minutes by P. Claflin

Board of Police Commission  
Executive Session  
November 22, 2016

Chairman Joseph D'Errico called executive session to order at 8:21p.m.

Present: Chairman Joseph F. D'Errico, Commissioners Larry Lazaroff and Marc Calafiore, Deputy Chief Jonathan Mulhern and Chief Thomas McLoughlin

Absent: Commissioners Walt Spader and David Monz

Personnel matters were discussed.

Chairman D'Errico asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Calafiore and seconded by Commissioner Lazaroff. All were in favor; the time was 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Thomas J. McLoughlin  
Chief of Police